

REMARKS

While it is believed that all of the presently pending claims are allowable over the art in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 3, which have been indicated to be allowable over the art. Similarly, Applicant has amended claim 7 to incorporate the limitations of claims 7 and 8 which are believed also to be allowable over the art.¹ Since claim 7 defines the diketone as hydroxy diketone or methyl ethyl diketone and as such is the same as claim 2, and claim 8 defines the diketone as dimethyldiketone or diethyldiketone just as in claim 3, it is believed that since claims 2 and 3 have been indicated to be allowable the Examiner intended similarly to indicate claims 7 and 8 to be allowable. In any event, since none of the art teaches a colloidal suspension of sulfur in a diketone selected from the group consisting of hydroxy diketone, methyl ethyl diketone, dimethyldiketone and diethyldiketone, it is believed that all of the claims are now allowable over the art.

The foregoing Amendment makes no claims changes that would require further search by the Examiner. Rather, the Amendment merely combines claims. Thus, no new issues have been raised. Moreover, in view of the Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 3 and 7 and/or 8 are allowable over the art it is believed the application now is in order for allowance. Thus, entry of the foregoing Amendment, and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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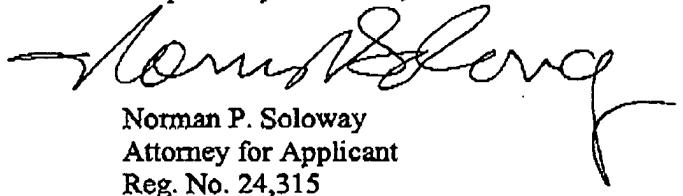
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¹ The summary of the rejection at Cipher 7 refers to "claims 2, 3 and 8" as being objected to, while the Detailed Action at Section II on page 3 indicates that claim 7 falls within the same category as claims 2 and 3.

Serial No. 10/617,501
Docket No. OW-24
Amendment B

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION VIA FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to EXAMINER Alton N. Pryor of the United States Patent and Trademark Office at facsimile number (703) 872-9306, on July 21, 2004 from Tucson, Arizona.

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